



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
**Peace, Independence, Democracy, Unity, Prosperity**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs



No **0448** MOFA.DIO.1

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic presents its compliments to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Implementation Support Unit, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch) and has the honor to enclose herewith the 2018 National Report of Protocol V of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CCW Implementation Support Unit, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vientiane, 10 April 2019



CCW Implementation Support Unit  
Geneva

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**REPORTING FORMS  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 2 (b) OF THE PROTOCOL AND THE  
DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING  
PARTIES TO PROTOCOL V**

(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

---

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: Lao People's Democratic Republic

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT (Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail):

International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Tel : +856-21-414025, Fax: +856-21-262711

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 11 April 2019

(dd/mm/yyyy)

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I

## - PROTOCOL V -

**FORMA:** Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

---

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

### Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

- A trial of a new Concept of Operation started in 2014, and on 15 January 2015 the system became fully implemented with evolving some errors and has been adapted for further practical use. Furthermore An amended version of new concept has been implemented since 20 September 2017 up to now.
- In 2018 the Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) were 203,154,721 m<sup>2</sup> in 10 provinces namely: Xiengkhuang, Huaphan, Luangprabang, Bolikhamxay, Khammouan, Savannakhet, Champasak, Salavan, Sekong and Attapeu. Clearing CHA area is a big also challenge for operators because most of the contaminated areas are located in mountainous landscape with dense jungles, plateaus and plains, slowing down clearance activities. Currently there are approximately 141,528 beneficiaries from conducting a new concept operation.
- A new Concept of Operation was developed for UXO sectors in Lao PDR which incorporates evidence-based survey methodology into the prioritization plan of clearance activities. This means that Confirmed Hazardous (CHA) become priority for clearance. Moreover, our new evidence-based survey methodology take in to account both Non-technical and Technical Survey to target Cluster Munitions remnants.
- National UXO/Mine Action Standard (NS) has been used as a template for both national and international operators. However, the operators are using their own SOPs system in which accordance to the provision under the National UXO/Mine Action Standard (in 2018 there are 6 operators and 22 companies)

### Any other relevant information:

- In 2018, a total 60,036,944 m<sup>2</sup> of land were cleared. This included 32,036,099 m<sup>2</sup> of agricultural land and 28,000,845 m<sup>2</sup> of developing land. The operators in Lao PDR destroyed more than 91,468 items of UXOs, of which 144 were bombs, 72,700 were cluster munitions, 28 were mines and 18,596 were other UXO items (data as of 24 January 2019).
- In 2018, UXO Sector in Lao PDR was supported by Canada, European Union, Ireland, KOICA, Luxembourg, New Zealand, USA, Republic of Korea and Australia.
  - Lao PDR National UXO/Mine Action Standards (NS) is consist of 24 Chapters:
    1. Chapter One: Sector Structure, Organizations and Responsibilities
    2. Chapter Two: Accreditation of UXO/Mine Action Organisations
    3. Chapter Three: Training and Qualifications
    4. Chapter Four: Marking system
    5. Chapter Five: Worksite Preparation
    6. Chapter Six: Survey
    7. Chapter Seven: UXO Clearance Operation
    8. Chapter Eight: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)
    9. Chapter Nine: Explosive Detection Dog (EDD) UXO Clearance Operations
    10. Chapter Ten: Mechanical Operations
    11. Chapter Eleven: Released Land Handover Procedures
    12. Chapter Twelve: Mine Clearance Operations
    13. Chapter Thirteen: UXO and Mine Risk Education (UXO/MRE)
    14. Chapter Fourteen: UXO and Mine Victim Assistance (VA)
    15. Chapter Fifteen: Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)
    16. Chapter Sixteen: Medical Support to UXO Clearance Operations
    17. Chapter Seventeen: Communications
    18. Chapter Eighteen: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
    19. Chapter Nineteen: Quality Management (QM)

**CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS**

**- PROTOCOL V -**

20. Chapter Twenty: Post Clearance Assessment (PCA)
21. Chapter Twenty One: Environmental Management
22. Chapter Twenty Two: Storage, Transportation and Handling of Explosives
23. Chapter Twenty Three: Reporting and Investigation of UXO/Mine Action Incident
24. Chapter Twenty Four: Information Management (IM)

Lao PDR National UXO/Mine Action Standards (NS) is available in NRA's website, see the link on website  
<http://www.nra.gov.la/resources.html>

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORMB:** Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

---

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

**Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:**

- IMSMA Legacy 2 has been established in 1998 by the UXO-Lao (the only national operator) then NRA was developed in late 2008 to be the governing body. IMSMA is a database that records information of UXO survey and clearance activities like:  
mobile clearance, risk education, and raising awareness as well as victim assistance e.g. data of incidents, number of victims and victim assistance.

- In order to submit information into IMSMA Database, local team is required to collect initial data through forms and assess for correctness before submitting to their operator domain. The initial data that submitted to the operator domain will be then transmitted to NRA for the final verification before approve into the IMSMA system.

**Any other relevant information:**

- National Database has been developed in accordance to the Lao National UXO/Mine Action Standards (NS) and the Lao National UXO/Mine Action standards also conform to the requirements of the International Mine Action Standard (IMAS)

- IMSMA is a tool to implement chapter 24 of the National UXO/Mine Action Standards about information management as following link (<http://www.nra.gov.la/resources.html>).

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORMC:** Steps taken to implement Article 5 of the Protocol: Other precautions for the protection of the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex:

Given the vast area of contaminated land in the Lao PDR, UXO warning signs have been installed in targeted project areas. However, there requires more warning signs in order to mark all contaminated areas.

- Follow up the Prime Ministerial Order No.39, dated 28 September 2016 on MRE and UXO Clearance;
- Produced 5,000 posters of UXO including the UXO hotline number to MRE network for UXO operators and 13 NRA provinces (Phongsaly, Houaphan, Xiengkhuang, Louangprabang, Vientiane province, Xaisomboun, Bolikhamxay, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Salavan, Champasak, Sekong and Attapeu provinces).
- Community Awareness Activities have been conducted (village presentations, educational films and school visits) ;
- Village Volunteers undertake door to door visits to educate villagers about UXO safety precautions, and present at the village level as well; the total number of village volunteers is 320 persons (140 women and 180 men). In addition to the foregoing, village volunteers are also:
  - 1/. Take note of evidence of UXO contamination;
  - 2/. Follow-up MRE activities;
  - 3/. Follow-up with children who are out of school;
  - 4/. Make taped presentations in the local language of ethnic communities. This is important for illiterate persons and those who cannot communicate in Lao language.
- Production and distribution of specific materials to risky groups such as posters, flip charts, story books, T-shirts, soccer balls, sport clothes, radio spot and brochures all with risk-avoidance messages, even though some kind materials is keeping the same as last year, but a number of material provided is decreased according to funding support.
- Coordinated with UXO humanitarian operators to conduct awareness raising activities and UXO impact in schools.

Any other relevant information:

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORMD:** Steps taken to implement Article 6 of the Protocol: Provisions for the protection of humanitarian missions and organizations from the effects of explosive remnants of war

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 **to** 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

- UXO Information can be accessed through the NRA website that operators can use as a reference for the project planning.
- The UXO sector 5 years plan (2016-2020) has been created by NRA as a guideline for national and international operators that can be used in drafting proposal activities regarding survey, clearance, risk education and awareness raising as well as victim assistances
- New operators will be leaded by NRA for site visit. on the other hand, existing operator swill refer to the UXO sector 5 year plan to implement UXO clearance activities.

Any other relevant information:

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORME:** Steps taken to implement Article 7 and Article 8 of the Protocol:  
Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war and cooperation and assistance

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Reporting for time period from: 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7 and Article 8:

The total funds of Donor contribution to the UXO sector (included survey and clearance, MRE and victim assistance) is 22,720,219.29 USD in 2018 (This is not included domestic company and the government of Lao PDR which provide in-kind contribution). These contributions were through bilateral and INGO' operators channels in UXO sector. Moreover, there is still a funding gap in UXO Sector since the total spending (according to the 5 year plan) will cost about 50 Million USD annually, compare to current amount of support which is approximately \$30 million per year. While the government of Laos cannot increase substantial contribution in the sector, therefore more financial aids is needed from the international community.

Any other relevant information:

**FORME(a):** Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

- Victim assistance strategy for NRA has been approved on 14 February 2014.
  - Prime Minister Order No. 39, dated 28 September 2016 on Mine Risk Education and UXO Clearance was issued.

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:



## - PROTOCOL V -

- There were 16 accidents with 22 casualties (3 women, 5 men, 9 boys and 5 girls), the number of UXO Victims between Jan 2018 to December 2018. Of these, 20 were injured and 2 were killed (data as of 24 January 2019). 39 survivors received medical treatment, psycho-social and funeral through Ministry of Health which is supported by World Education and Quality of life (NGOs). Currently, the results of UXO Survivors Tracking Survey data are available for all development partners. This NRA results also provided to UXO Victims Assistance operators.
- The Government of Lao PDR works closely with representative of the Lao Disabled People Association, Lao Disabled Women and Quality of life Association. Among other things, they have actively participated in these consultations, as well on special events including UXO annual review meetings, UXO sector working group meetings, Mine-UXO awareness day.
- Center of Medical and Rehabilitation in cooperation with COPE provided physical rehabilitation for 42 patients of UXO accident survivors.
- Quality of Life Association in Xiengkhuang province, Community Development Association in Savannakhet province and Vocational Training Centre in Houaphan province have supported vocational training as well as provided economic support for 107 survivors.

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORM F:** Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

**Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex:**

Regulations have been issued as follows:  
Regulation of the Ministry of National Defense No. 405/MND, dated 12 February 2006 on management of weapons and ammunitions.  
the Lao PDR Prime Minister's decree 67/PM of 12/2/2018 on the establishment of the NRA for the UXO programme in Lao PDR details the responsibilities of the NRA and assigns the NRA to issue regulations for UXO/mine action in Lao PDR. This is the authority under which the NRA has developed and implemented the accompanying Lao PDR National UXO/Mine Action Standards (NS). These NS detail the minimum standards and requirements for all UXO/mine action conducted in Lao PDR. They conform to the requirements of relevant Lao national legislation and the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS). The NS have been developed in a participatory manner with assistance and input from the UXO/mine action community in Lao PDR. The purpose of NS is to ensure safety, efficiency and effectiveness in UXO/mine action within Lao PDR. The NS deal with the accreditation of UXO/mine action organizations, the prioritization and planning for UXO/mine action tasks, the conduct of UXO/mine action activities, the handover of released land, quality management requirements, the training and qualification of UXO/mine action personnel, the management of UXO/mine action information, the health and safety of UXO/mine action personnel, environmental considerations and supporting and logistic activities. The NS are applicable to all UXO/mine action organizations operating in Lao PDR and they can use the NS as the basis for the development of their projects and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Any current SOPs that do not conform to the requirements in the NS will be amended to do so. The NS are dynamic documents that will evolve to meet with changing situations, circumstances and the introduction of new technologies and methodologies. The NS will be formally reviewed by the standards section of NRA at least every three years to ensure they remain valid for the existing conditions and all UXO/mine action stakeholders will be invited to participate in these reviews. However, UXO/mine action organizations and other UXO/mine action stakeholders are encouraged to make recommendations for changes to the NS at any time. These recommendations are to be submitted in writing to the NRA. On receipt of such a recommendation, the NRA will circulate the recommendation to stakeholders to seek input. It will then convene a fully participatory review board to consider the recommendation and the inputs received. Amendments to the NS will then be presented to the NRA Board for final approval. Every attempt has been made to develop NS to meet the needs of UXO/mine action in Lao PDR. Should an unforeseen situation arise that is outside the scope of these standards, UXO/mine action organizations are to apply judgment and common sense in the application of NS, and where necessary, seek the advice of the NRA before implementing measures to meet the situation.

Any other relevant information:

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORMG:** Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 **to** 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

The organizational Structure of NRA is available in NRA's website as following link ([www.nra.gov.la/board.html](http://www.nra.gov.la/board.html))

Any other relevant information:

**- PROTOCOL V -**

**FORMH:** Other relevant matters

---

High Contracting Party: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Reporting for time period from: 01 January 2018 **to** 31 December 2018  
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

---

Any other relevant information:

The Government of Lao PDR in-kind contribution to the UXO sector in totally 29,700 USD in 2018 (Excluding for exception of project equipment and vehicle imports cost).